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K378

ACTION WHA-00

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO	LOG-00	AF-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	A-00	INL-00	PDI-00
	DS-00	EAP-00	EUR-00	UTED-00	VCI-00	FRB-00	TEDE-00
	INR-00	IO-00	L-00	VCIE-00	DCP-00	OIC-00	OIG-00
	NIMA-00	PA-00	GIWI-00	SCT-00	DOHS-00	IRM-00	BBG-00
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WHITE HOUSE WASHDC  
ALL CANADIAN POSTS COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS OTTAWA 001333

STATE FOR WHA/CAN, WHA/PDA  
WHITE HOUSE PASS NSC/WEUROPE, NSC/WHA

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: KPAO, KMDR, OIIP, OPRC, CA

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: TERRORISM REPORT; AFRICA

#### TERRORISM REPORT

1. "Arar illustrates what?"

The leading Globe and Mail opined (5/2): "...What Maher Arar should stand for, and does for anyone who has looked reasonably at the facts, is what can happen when democracies opt out of civilized legal norms in trying to fight terrorism. An innocent man can be made to disappear into a nightmare of torture and interrogation. Not so for the Bush administration.... The U.S. report says the Arar case harmed co-operation between Canada and the U.S., though by and large co-operation remains strong. More to the point, 'the Arar case underscores a greater concern for the United States: the presence in Canada of numerous suspected terrorists and terrorist supporters.' This is a grotesque non-sequitur. How does the fate of an innocent torture victim 'underscore' the presence of terrorists?... [W]hat befell Maher Arar shows why all

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countries should insist on due process in dangerous times."

### AFRICA

#### 2. "Waking up to genocide"

The nationalist Ottawa Citizen commented (5/2): "The political complexity of the crisis in Sudan must not muddy the moral clarity that is finally, thankfully taking hold among people of all ideologies and backgrounds.... While the negotiations continue, North Americans are rising up to demand an end to this three-year massacre. In Washington and Toronto on the weekend, people unlikely to be in the same room found each other at the same rally. It's hard to find any person of conscience who doesn't support some kind of action in Darfur, and many people of all political stripes support an intervention that wouldn't involve regime change and would be under the auspices of the UN. The only way to stop the killing in Darfur is to put soldiers on the ground between the militia and their victims. If a peace agreement can help that happen, it is worth pursuing. It is not, however, an alternative to that intervention."

#### 3. "Fuelling the conflict"

The conservative Halifax Chronicle Herald editorialized (5/2): "...The UN's World Food Program has only received one-third of the money it needs to stave off starvation in Darfur. The U.S. is the largest donor, but the European Union has not been keeping pace. If the UN cannot even raise the necessary funds to feed Darfur's destitute, what are the chances it will raise enough troops - if and when the UN takes over from the African Union in trying to impose order and security in southern Sudan? More public pressure must be brought to bear in Western capitals to prod governments to respond to the humanitarian disaster. But Chinese embassies should also be placed on the demonstration routes. Until China starts paying a price for buying oil from and selling arms to the rogue state of Sudan, don't hold your breath for a resolution of this crisis."

#### 4. "'Peace process' is failure of will."

In an unsigned editorial, the conservative Montreal Gazette wrote (5/2): "'Peace process' is the drearily-familiar euphemism that is trotted out when there's little or no prospect of actual peace anytime soon.... It's not quite true that the government of Sudan has created a desert and called it a peace process. In truth, the desert was there long before Sudan began

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giving support to bloodthirsty janjaweed Arab militias that have scoured the impoverished region, killing non-Arab Muslims and animists alike. This is relentless Arab Muslims and animists alike. This is relentless ethnic cleansing, not to say genocide, but it has gone on in a place remote from TV cameras and human rights activists. And so the killing and the expulsions have continued.... The only thing that can come close to assuring a real cessation of hostilities, short of a change of heart in Khartoum, is a muscular international military presence. The chances of that remain slim, for reasons we know. And so the dying continues in Darfur. The world can't summon the will to act."

WILKINS

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